

REMARKS

Claims 1-68 are pending in the present application. In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner restricted the application into seven different inventions: Group I – claims 1-15, 16-23, and 53-56; Group II – claim 24; Group III – claims 25-36, 64, and 65; Group IV – claims 37-52; Group V – claims 57-62; Group VI – claim 63; and Group VII – claims 66-68.

Applicants submit that searching all of the Groups identified above would not constitute an undue burden. However, as required, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-23 and 53-56) for further prosecution. Accordingly, Applicants have withdrawn claims 24-52 and 57-68 from prosecution, without prejudice to reinstate such claims in the present application or a later continuing application therefrom.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 1-23 and 53-56 in the present Application. Applicants submit that the Application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an early notice of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

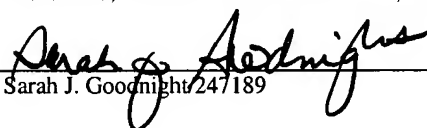
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CERTIFICATE UNDER (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 30, 2006.


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